

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A tubing system for use in a subterranean environment, comprising:
  - an upper tubing section having an upper power cable segment therein;
  - a lower tubing section having a lower power cable segment therein; and
  - an intermediate tubing section having an electrical connector that is axially expandable therein, wherein the upper and the lower tubing sections are coupled to generally opposite ends of the intermediate tubing section and the electrical connector is electrically coupled to the upper and lower power cable segments.
2. (original) The tubing system as recited in claim 1, wherein the upper and lower tubing sections comprise coiled tubing.
3. (original) The tubing system as recited in claim 2, wherein the upper tubing section is coupled to the intermediate tubing section by a dimple-on connector.

4. (original) The tubing system as recited in claim 3, wherein the lower tubing section is coupled to the intermediate tubing section by a dimple-on connector.

5. (original) The tubing system as recited in claim 2, wherein the electrical connector comprises a sliding contact to permit axial elongation and contraction.

6. (original) The tubing system as recited in claim 5, wherein the sliding contact comprises a plurality of extensions slidably received in a plurality of corresponding receptacles.

7. (original) The tubing system as recited in claim 2, wherein the intermediate tubing section and electrical connector may be spooled onto a workover reel.

8. (original) A tubing splice system, comprising:

an intermediate tubing section coupled to a pair of adjacent tubing sections  
by a pair of mechanical connectors each having an outside  
diameter that does not substantially exceed the diameter of each  
adjacent tubing section; and

a power cable extending through the pair of tubing sections, the power  
cable being spliced by an electrical connector disposed within the

intermediate tubing section between the pair of mechanical connectors.

9. (original) The tubing splice system as recited in claim 8, wherein the pair of adjacent tubing sections comprise coiled tubing.

10. (original) The tubing splice system as recited in claim 8, wherein the pair of adjacent tubing sections and the intermediate tubing section have common diameters.

11. (original) The tubing splice system as recited in claim 8, wherein the electrical connector is expandable within the intermediate tubing section.

12. (original) The tubing splice system as recited in claim 9, wherein each mechanical connector of the pair of mechanical connectors has a diameter no greater than the diameter of the pair of adjacent tubing sections.

13. (original) The tubing splice system as recited in claim 12, wherein each mechanical connector comprises a dimple-on connector.

14. (original) The tubing splice system as recited in claim 8, wherein the electrical connector comprises a sliding contact to permit axial elongation and contraction.

15. (original) The tubing splice system as recited in claim 14, further comprising an electric submersible pumping system coupled to the power cable and to one of the pair of tubing sections.

16. (original) An electrical connector for connecting segments of power cable, comprising:

an outer housing sized to fit within a segment of coiled tubing;

a conductive receptacle disposed within the outer housing, the conductive receptacle being electrically coupled to a first power cable segment; and

a conductive extension sized for slidable receipt in the conductive receptacle, the conductive extension being coupled to a second power cable segment.

17. (original) The electrical connector as recited in claim 16, wherein the conductive receptacle comprises three conductive receptacles and the conductive extension comprises three conductive extensions.

18. (original) The electrical connector as recited in claim 17, further comprising a coiled tubing segment positioned around the outer housing.

19. (original) A method for splicing tubing having an internal power cable for use in providing power to an electric submersible pumping system, comprising:

coupling an intermediate tubing section between a pair of tubing sections of equal diameter to the intermediate tubing section via a pair of mechanical connectors; and

splicing an internal power cable within the intermediate tubing section.

20. (original) The method as recited in claim 19, wherein splicing comprises connecting an upper and a lower segment of the power cable to an electrical connector disposed between the pair of mechanical connectors.

21. (original) The method as recited in claim 20, further comprising forming the electrical connector as an extensible electrical connector.

22. (original) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein forming comprises placing a conductive rod in slidable engagement with a corresponding receptacle.

23. (original) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein forming comprises placing three conductive rods in slidable engagement with three corresponding receptacles.

24. (original) The method as recited in claim 23, wherein splicing comprises forming an electrical splice above and below the electrical connector.

25. (original) The method as recited in claim 20, further comprising connecting an electric submersible pumping system to one of the pair of tubing sections.

26. (original) The method as recited in claim 25, further comprising powering the electric submersible pumping system via the internal power cable.

27. (original) The method as recited in claim 20, wherein coupling comprises utilizing dimple-on connectors as the pair of mechanical connectors.

28. (original) The method as recited in claim 26, wherein coupling comprises utilizing dimple-on connectors as the pair of mechanical connectors.

29. (original) A system for splicing tubing having an internal power cable for use in providing power to an electric submersible pumping system, comprising:

means for coupling an intermediate coiled tubing section between a pair of coiled tubing sections via a pair of mechanical connectors; and

means for splicing an internal power cable within the intermediate coiled tubing section.

30. (original) The system as recited in claim 29, wherein the means for splicing comprises an electrical connector and a pair of electrical splices disposed between the pair of mechanical connectors.